

OSA-4555-63

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11 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Field Activities, OSA

SUBJECT: Security of Area Assigned to ID/OSA
on the Fifth Floor

1. Having inspected the area assigned to ID/OSA, I find that the main office space in which all of the personnel except the Chief will be seated is bordered on three sides by nonsoundproof walls, two of which are adjacent to the SR Division. A simple precursory examination revealed that a conversation at normal speech level could easily be heard through both the SR walls and doors of this area.

2. Before ID/OSA can use this space, I would recommend that all three of the metal walls in this office space be soundproofed to the maximum extent possible. Only the small vaulted area in this space is satisfactory for code word material. With the removal of the telephones from the vaulted area, this vault should meet all of the requirements for COMINT and code word material.

3. With your permission I would like to ask [redacted] TSO/CIA, and [redacted] CIA, to inspect this area to determine its suitability for the materials now handled by ID/OSA.

4. I realize the problem that we are up against for space. The present area occupied by ID/OSA on the sixth floor has already been deemed unsatisfactory for COMINT and code word materials due to the accessibility to many persons not cleared and the inability to control personnel coming and going in the entire vaulted area of 6B12.

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5. I am sorry that I have no suggestions as to a suitable space for ID/OSA; the security requirements for the vaulted area needed are of such stringency that OSA would be hard put to acquire a space such as that outlined in the COMINT and TALENT control manuals. It is unfortunate, however, that ID/OSA is the only office that I know of which has not had a satisfactory vaulted area provided for the sensitive materials it handles.

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[Redacted]

Chief, Intelligence Division
Office of Special Activities

cc: TSO/CIA

[Redacted]

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